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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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llw
8-2-02

Applicant : Minoru SUZUKI

Group Art Unit: 1722

Appln No : 09/924,453

Examiner:

Filed : August 9, 2001

For : PRODUCING APPARATUS OF FILM WITH THROUGH-HOLES

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

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Sir :

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, §1.97-1.98, Applicant hereby calls the following documents, which were cited during the prosecution of parent Application No. 09/167,572 (now U.S. Patent No. 6,296,469 to SUZUKI, which issued on October 2, 2001), to the Examiner's attention:

In an Information Disclosure Statement filed in the above-noted parent application on January 7, 1999, the following documents were cited:

United Kingdom Patent GB 1 120 578, published July 17, 1968;

United Kingdom Patent GB 832 763, published January 10, 1956;

United Kingdom Patent GB 767 697, published February 5, 1957; and

U.S. Patent No. 5,554,250, to PAIS et al., issued September 10, 1996.

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Each of the above documents is cited as an "A" category document (indicating technological background) in a United Kingdom Search Report Issued December 15, 1998, with respect to U.K. Application No. GB 9822149.2, a counterpart to the parent application.

Further, Applicant also brings the following documents to the Examiner's attention:

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication H 5-305666, published November 19, 1993, along with an English language Abstract;

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication H 8-49960, published February 20, 1996, along with an English language Abstract; and

European Patent Application No. EP 0719994 A1, published July 3, 1996, a counterpart to JP H 8-49960.

Applicant also brings to the Examiner's attention the following copending and commonly assigned patent applications:

U.S. Patent Application No. 09/161,306, filed September 28, 1998, which was abandoned on June 20, 2001; and

U.S. Patent Application No. 08/873,565, filed June 12, 1997, which is now U.S. Patent No. 6,145,976 to SUZUKI et al., issued on November 14, 2000.

In an Office Action dated November 26, 1999, in the same parent application, the Examiner cited the following documents:

U.S. Patent No. 3,546,742 to KUGLER, which issued on December 15, 1970;

U.S. Patent No. 3,744,106 to BAUM et al., which issued on July 10, 1973;

U.S. Patent No. 3,355,974 to CARMICHAEL, which issued on December 5, 1967;

U.S. Patent No. 4,432,917 to HUNGERFORD, which issued on February 21, 1984;

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U.S. Patent No. 5,554,250 (mentioned above);

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication H 5-305666 (mentioned above);

United Kingdom Patent GB 1 120 578 (mentioned above);

United Kingdom Patent GB 832 763 (mentioned above);

United Kingdom Patent GB 767 697 (mentioned above); and

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication H 8-49960 (mentioned above).

In an Office Action dated July 18, 2000, in the same parent application, the Examiner cited the following document:

U.S. Patent No. 3,819,465 to PARSONS et al., which issued on June 25, 1974.

In an Office Action dated November 6, 2000, in the same parent application, the Examiner cited the following document:

U.S. Patent No. 4,859,519 to CABE, Jr. et al., which issued on August 22, 1989.

Applicant notes that the above-noted documents were either cited by the Examiner or were submitted with an Information Disclosure Statement in parent Application No. 09/167,572, and thus, copies of the same are not provided herewith.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider all of the above materials and cite the patent documents. The above-noted patents have been listed on a PTO-1449 Form which is attached hereto. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached PTO-1449 Form and to return a copy of the Form to the Applicant with the next official communication in the present application to confirm consideration of these documents.

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Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Minoru SUZUKI

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November 6, 2001
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